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(12) UK Patent Application (19) GB (11) 2 357 176 (13) A

(43) Date of A Publication 13.06.2001

(21) Application No 9928756.7

(22) Date of Filing 07.12.1999

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(51) INT CL⁷

G07F 7/10 , E04H 1/12

(52) UK CL (Edition S)

G4V VAK

(56) Documents Cited

GB 2265396 A WO 97/45796 A1 WO 97/14122 A2
WO 92/07327 A1 US 5812765 A

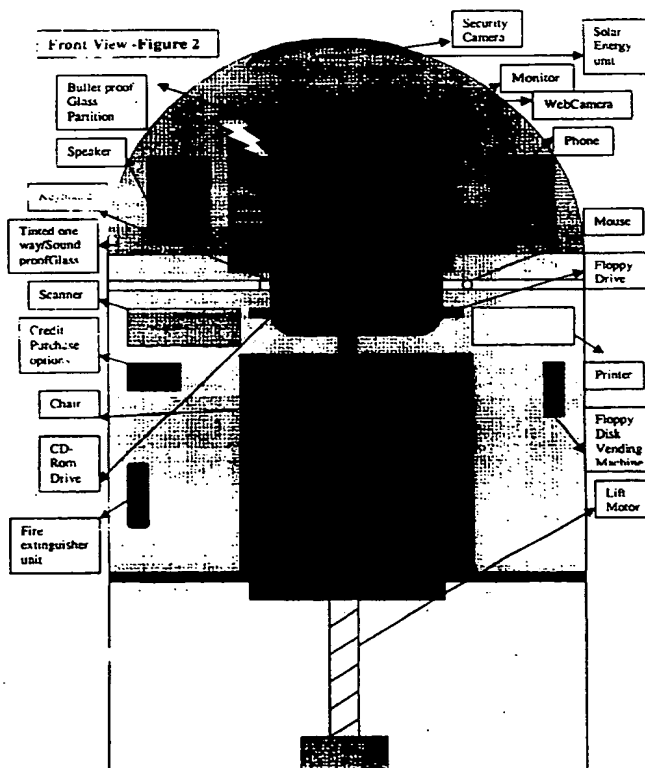
(58) Field of Search

UK CL (Edition R) E1D , G4V
INT CL⁷ E04H 1/12 1/14 , G07F 7/08 7/10 19/00
Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

(54) Abstract Title

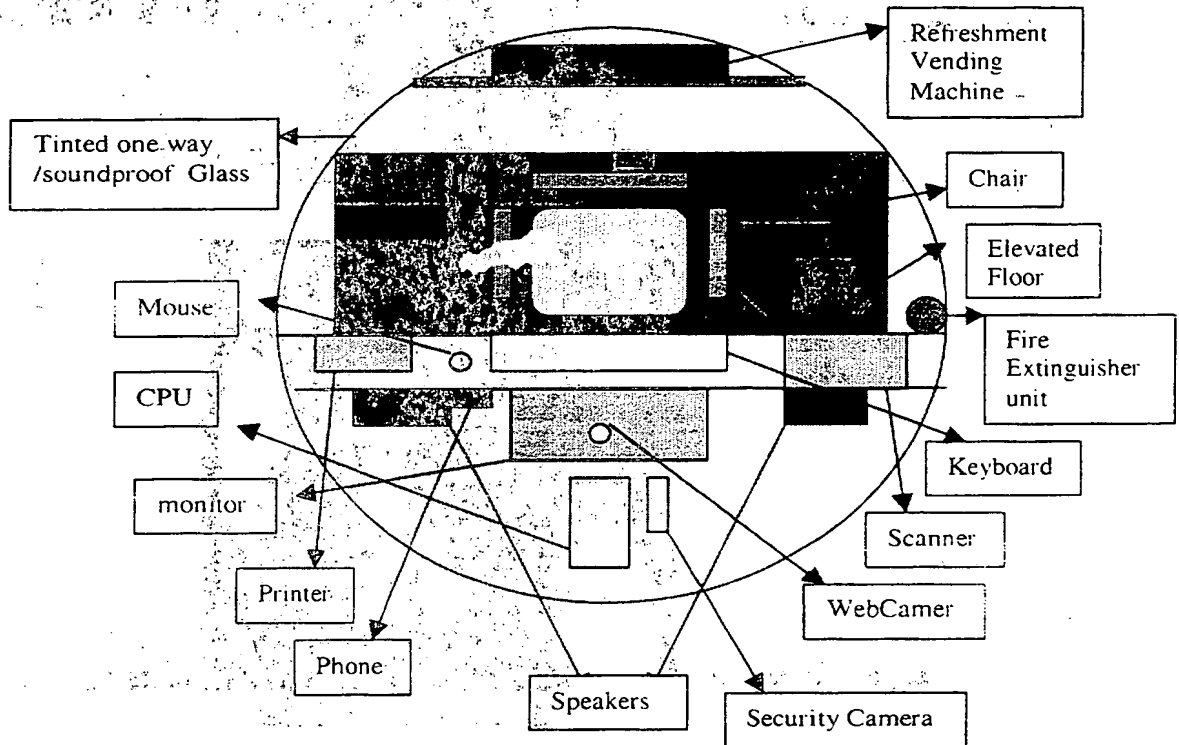
Internet booth

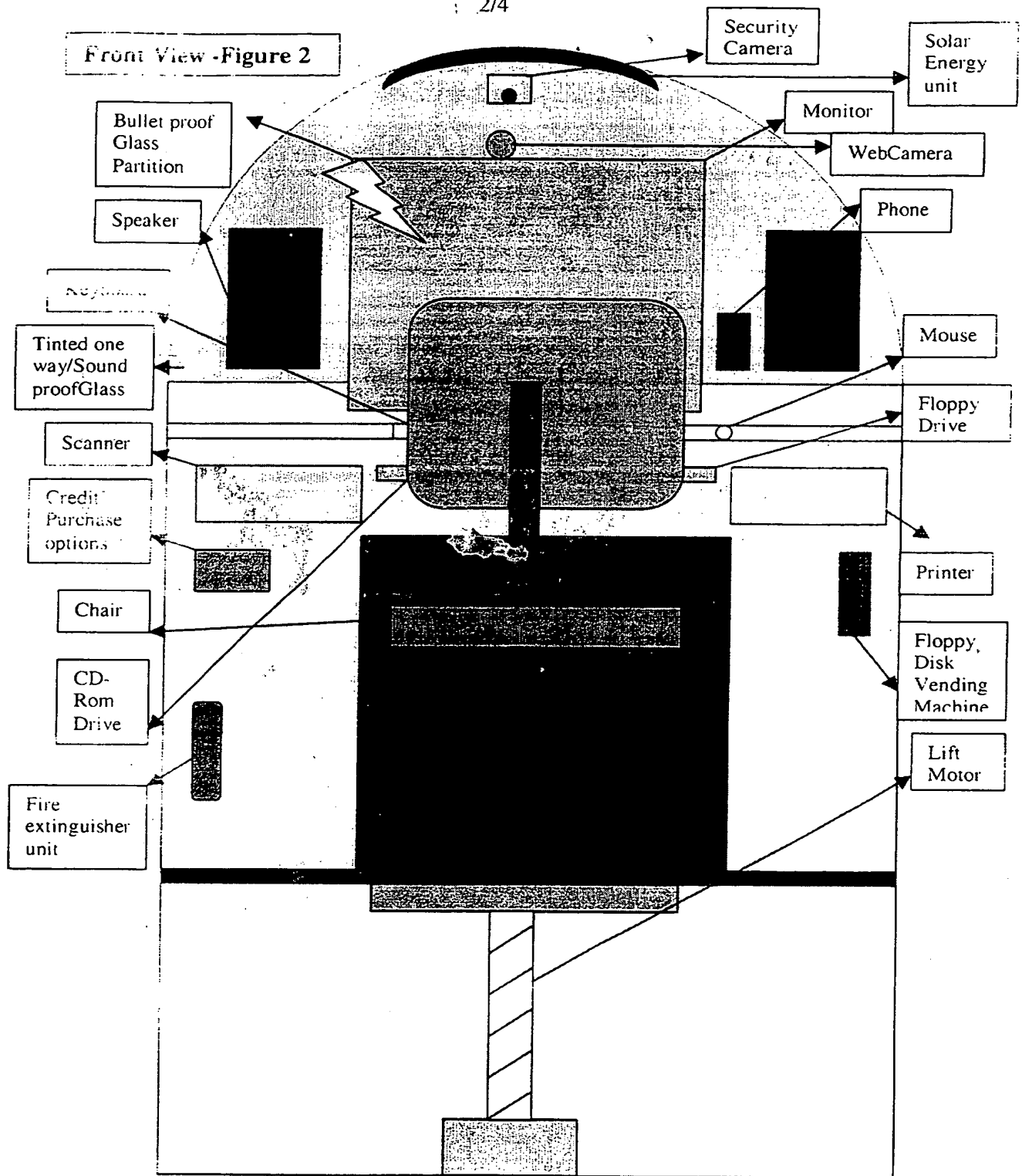
(57) An internet booth provides services such as internet access, e-mail, video conferencing, telephone, fax, printing, scanning, audio and video multi-media facilities and photocopying. The booth may have a lockable electronic door, an elevating floor, vending facilities for floppy discs and refreshments, a solar energy unit, a fire extinguisher, a security camera and a payment mechanism for coins and/or cards.

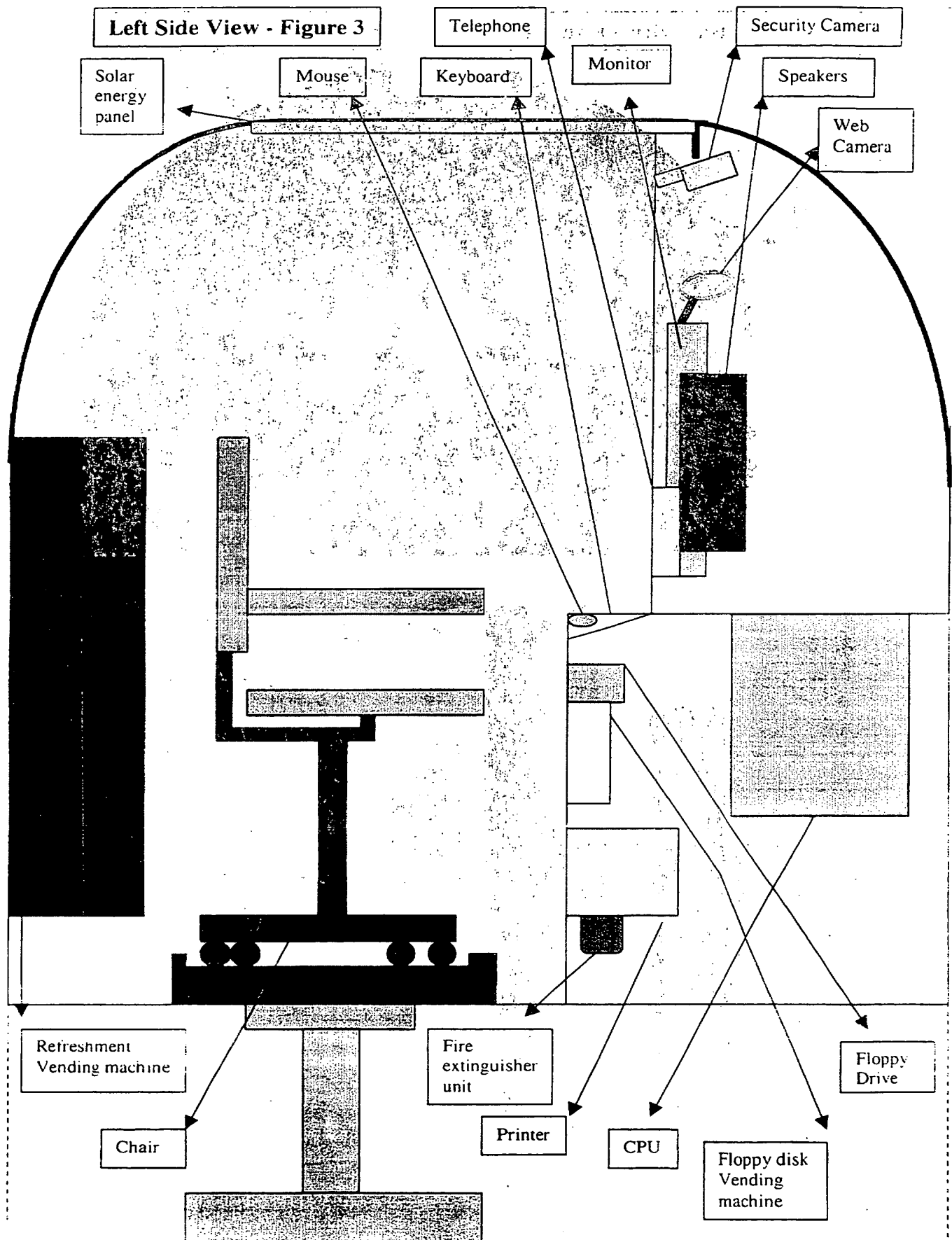


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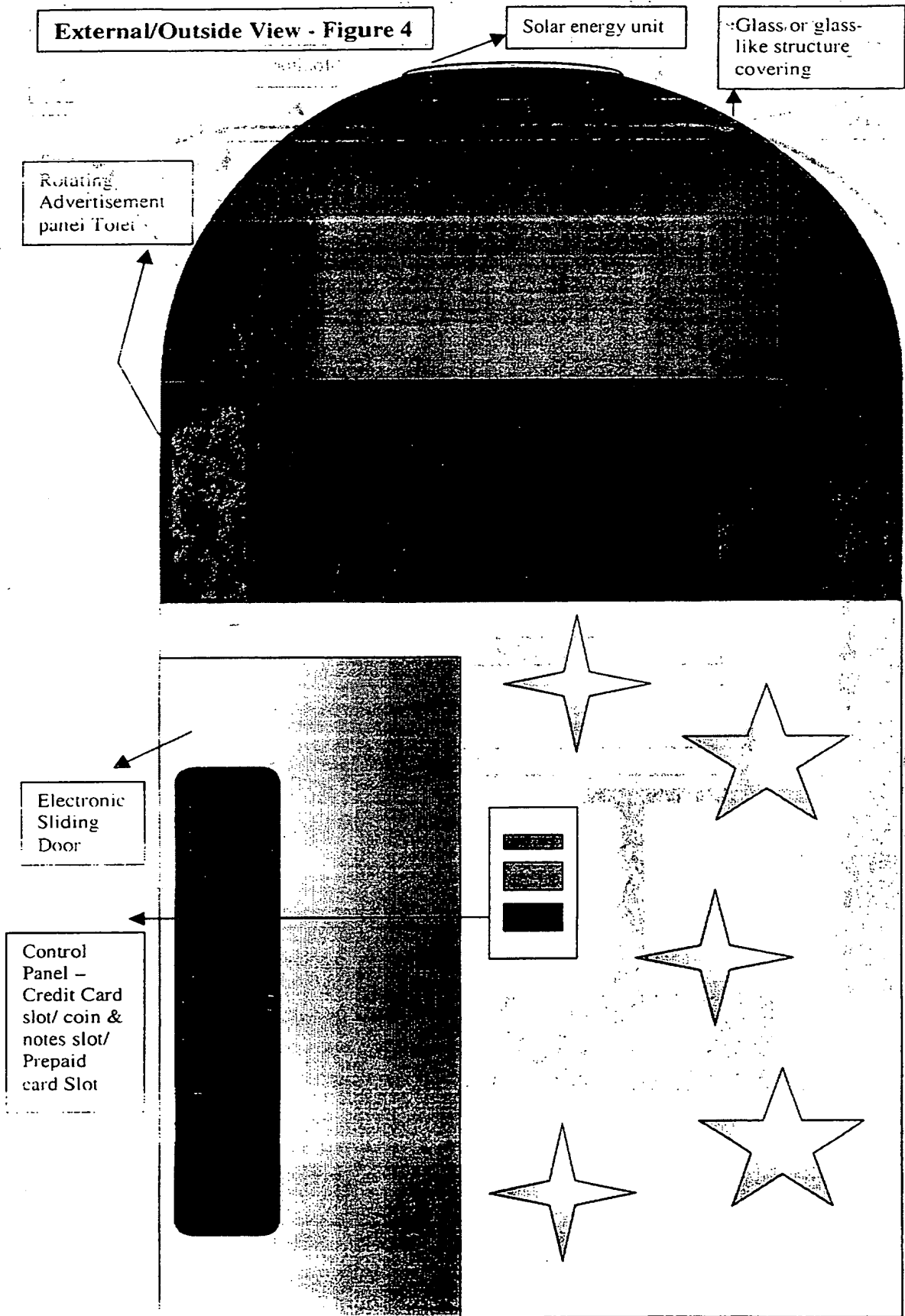
Top View - Figure 1







External/Outside View - Figure 4



INTERNET BOOTH

This invention relates to a service which will give ready access to Internet, E-mail facilities, video Conferencing, Telephone, Fax, Printing, Scanning, Multi-media facilities for audio and video and Photocopying, in the form of a booth to anybody that requires it at any moment and place. The service intends to save valuable time and money, as well as provide entertainment value.

It will closely resemble a capsule-like structure and will have an extremely futuristic, but also very welcoming look. The top one third will be one-sided view glass or glass-like covering. The door will be fully electronic and opens in a rotating slide mechanism, with a see through glass or glass-like window. See figure 4.

There will be an electronic rotational panel immediately below the top covering and will be measuring approximately 1 foot in width. See figure 4.

On the side of the door will be the access panel with options and slots of notes/coins, prepaid cards, credit/debit card swipes and pin entry number pad. There will be a provision of notes slot of £5, £10, £20 and £ 50 as well as a coin slot accepting 5c, 10c, 20, 50c, £1 and £2. All major Credit and Debit cards will be accepted. These include American Express, Visa, Delta, Master, Electron etc. Prepaid cards will be available for purchase from all major outlets, such as Petrol Stations, Supermarkets, Corner Stores, etc. These cards will be available in the options of £5, £15, £25 and £50. See figure 4.

The service will be compact but comfortable. Upon opening of the electronic door, the customer will then enter and take seat on the chair. After the door shuts, the floor will elevate about 18 inches, until it is levelled to the upper section. The elevation will lock automatically until the customer expresses a desire to leave.

The service will incorporate state of the art computer technology – both in terms of hardware and software – making it the most reliable, user friendly, efficient and quality effective console of facilities available in the market.

The monitor, speakers, web camera and the security camera will be separated from the customer by a non-penetrable glass or glass-like shield. The CPU, printer and scanner will be concealed in the structure at the lower part of the entire panel, with only an access opening for the printed copies removal and insertion of papers in the scanner. The keyboard and mouse will also be fixed in the panel, with the keys and mouse ball access only. There will also be a telephone placed with access to the hand piece only. See figure 1, 2 and 3

The refreshment vending machine will be placed behind the seat and would be fixed. It will be serving chocolate bars and soft drinks. The more popular choices of these items will be provided for selection to our customers. The facility will provide a vending machine supplying floppy disks for our customers. These disks will only be of reputed manufacturer make and fully formatted, ready for immediate use. See figure 3

The facility will be alarmed and will activate and/or automatically notify the relevant offices if any type of force and/or pressure is being applied to any of the equipment. These measures are taken for security against theft and vandalism of the property, as well as for the general safety and protection of our customers.

The service aims to provide maximum comfort and satisfactory environment to our customers and therefore to give them complete privacy and peace of mind a sound-proof facility will be provided. However, there may be an option not to opt for such and the choice will be given to the customer to select.

The service will equip itself with solar and other energy saving, utilising and producing technology. This will be an attempt to conserve energy by tapping into the natural energy of the sun. These devices will be installed on top of the exterior side of the capsule.

It will be the company policy to not levy any minimum duration of use, as the charging will be on per minute basis. In the same breath there will not be any maximum duration of use.

The service has the maximum amount of concern for our customer security and for such purposes each facility will be monitored with a closed captioned camera, which will not interfere or compromise with the privacy of the customer. See figure 3.

There will be an option of one button direct automatic call for security and/or assistance call, providing constant peace of mind to our customers. Misuse would be avoided by penalty charges

In order to maintain customer safety, general security of the premises and availability of service to all at all times, the doors would be programmed to automatically close in case of some form of misuse is being perpetrated- until assistance arrive at the site.

The facility will be equipped with a small fire extinguisher and a fire alarm. In the highly unlikely and unfortunate circumstances that there is an outbreak of fire, the facility will automatically notify all relevant offices for assistance.

The service's technical assistance team will be available on a regular 24-hour basis to assist in any breakdown situation. This assistance will be available by dialling a specified free phone number through the telephone.

Figure 1 shows a top view of the entire booth.

Figure 2 shows the full front view of the inside of the booth showing the main panel.

Figure 3 shows a left side view of the booth.

Figure 4 shows the external view of the booth.

CLAIMS

1. The service will encompass a complete set of services, and this includes Internet access, E-mail facilities, Video Conferencing, Telephone, Fax, Printing, Scanning, Multi-media facilities for audio and video and Photocopying, all in a booth-like structure, catering for all purposes and at all the possibly required places.
2. The access to the service will be through an electronic door.
3. The service will be available for membership on either pre-purchase of monthly credit hour basis for private and corporate users or on individual, family and corporate membership basis.
4. The options of voice command activation as well as the more common mouse will be provided.
5. The chair will be revolving and fully electronically controlled through a remote control panel on its arm, allowing varied number of choices and function to the customer.
6. The booth is estimated to have a dimension of around 2 - 2.5 in diameter.
7. The maximum height of the booth is expected to not exceed 10 feet, also it is not to be below 8.5 feet.
8. The floor will elevate automatically about 18 inches, until it is levelled to the upper section, upon closure of the doors.



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Application No: GB 9928756.7
Claims searched: All

Examiner: Michael Logan
Date of search: 6 June 2000

Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl.(Ed.R): G4V; E1D

Int.Cl (Ed.7): E04H 1/12, 1/14; G07F 7/08, 7/10, 19/00

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X	GB 2265396 A (PYE) see fig 1 and page 3	1 at least
X	WO 97/45796 A1 (BARCELOU) whole document relevant	1 at least
X	WO 97/14122 A2 (TONG) whole document relevant	1 at least
X	WO 92/07327 A1 (HAMILTON) whole document relevant	1 at least
X	US 5812765 (CURTIS) whole document relevant	1 at least

X Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step
Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.

& Member of the same patent family

A Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.